

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL—1952

MONTEREY COUNTY Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

VOL. XV—NO. 17

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1952

WHOLE NO. 741

Merry Christmas!



BUY DISTINCTIVE UNION LABEL GIFTS AND ALWAYS PATRONIZE FIRMS WHICH DISPLAY UNION SHOP CARDS AND UNION BUTTONS!

Projectionists Elect Leaders

Officers for the new year have been elected by Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators Union 611 of this area, with incumbents returned to key posts.

Local 611 still was conducting a picket line last week at the Moonlight Drive-in Theater in Hollister, according to Business Agent Ray Beck of the union.

Elected are:
President—Paul Funchess.
Vice President—George J. Smith.
Recording Secretary—Joe A. Cain.

Financial Secretary—H. E. Packard.

Executive Board—A. H. Finley Jr., D. P. Green and James Wilson.
Trustees—A. E. Jackson, S. J. Falkenberg and A. H. Finley Jr.

CARPENTER YULE FETE IN MONTEREY THIS SATURDAY

Members of Carpenters Union 1323 of Monterey will gather at Carpenters Hall, 778 Hawthorne St., Monterey, this Saturday afternoon for the union's annual Christmas party.

Francis Geary, chairman for the event, announced that the festivities will begin at 2 p.m.

There will be a floor show and other entertainment, plus refreshments. Favors and gifts will be distributed.

LABORERS GAIN FIRST CONTRACT AT DEL MONTE

First contract to be gained by Laborers Union 690 of Monterey with Del Monte Properties on the Monterey Peninsula has been signed and sent to the Wage Stabilization Board for formal approval, the union announced last week.

Covered by the pact are forestry employees and watchmen employed by the firm in its holdings, from 35 to 40 men.

Retroactive to July 1, if approved as submitted, the contract includes a welfare plan, paid vacations, holidays, seniority clauses, and a substantial pay scale.

Wage rates were raised from \$1.27 to \$1.40 for lowest scale workers, with a top pay of \$1.83 established, the union announced. Approval is expected before the end of this year.

CARP. COUNCIL MEETS IN K.C.

Monterey Bay District Council of Carpenters held its final meeting of the year last week in King City, with Carpenters Union 1279 of that city as host to the gathering.

Business was reported as plentiful and varied in nature, with several important matters handled by the delegates present. Discussions of contract, welfare plan and local matters highlighted the session.

Next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 13, in Monterey, with Local 1323 of that city as host.

Salinas Labor to Give Annual Christmas Party For Children Saturday

All children in the Salinas area, whether of union parents or not, are invited to take part in the annual Children's Christmas Party at the Salinas Union High School Auditorium this Saturday at 7:30 p.m., at which time all AFL unions in Salinas will combine to present a mammoth entertainment for the youngsters, climaxed by the arrival of Santa Claus with a big bag of gifts and favors which he will pass out to the kiddies.

All unions and union officials have combined in the annual public event, which is expected to attract some 3,000 youngsters.

Committees, headed by Randolph Fenchel, general chairman, have been busy for several weeks making arrangements for the party.

Because of the expected crowd, parents are asked to bring their children before 7:30 p.m. and call for them after 9 p.m. There will be no seats in the auditorium for parents, inasmuch as the party is dedicated to children alone. City policemen and firemen will be on hand to keep order and to watch over the crowd.

There will be a gala floor show lasting more than an hour—a professional show produced especially for the party by Larry Allen, Inc., prominent San Francisco-Oakland theatrical and stage producers.

Musicians Union 616 will supply a union orchestra to play for the show and for the entire festivities.

No speeches will be made and there will be nothing except fun and festivity from 7:30 o'clock until the end of the show, the committee promises. Santa Claus is expected to put in his appearance about 9 p.m. and the children will line up to receive their favors from him, passing on out of the auditorium upon receipt of their candy, fruit, nuts, and other goodies.

Members of Laborers Union 272 will gather at the Labor Temple early on Saturday to prepare the bags of fruit and candy, all of which has arrived and is in storage for the big event.

Carpenters Union 925 will supply members to erect the big Christmas tree. Decorations will be by members of Painters Union 1104. Lighting effects will be provided by members of Electrical Workers Local 243.

Two well known projectionists of Salinas, Art Reina and Al Finley Jr., both of Projectionists 611, will handle spotlights and floodlights for the show and other events.

All crafts will have a part in the event, the entire affair being coordinated through the Central Labor Council.

The committee stressed the fact that the party is for all youngsters and is not confined to children of union members only. One final admonition was given: "Come early for the best seats!"

Sue to Halt Phone Hike

Harrisburg, Pa. (LPA). — Attorneys for the Pennsylvania CIO Council have filed a brief with the Public Utility Commission opposing the Bell Telephone Co. request for a \$32 million rate hike. The council will also present oral arguments before the PUC.

SALINAS UNIONS PLAN SESSIONS ON LABOR FOR ALL APPRENTICES

Plans for a series of sessions on labor relations matters were outlined by the Central Labor Council at Salinas at the last meeting for the purpose of acquainting all apprentices in training there with the functions and advantages of unions.

Council Secretary A. J. Clark said a special committee was named to arrange for the meetings, which will be compulsory for the apprentices and which will be held as soon as possible.

Tentative plans for the labor relations meetings call for speakers from both labor and management, with open forum sessions to follow the talks.

First session is set tentatively for Jan. 15, with a labor representative as speaker. A labor relations professor from a state school may be the lecturer. The session will be from 7 to 10 p.m. Other dates tentatively set are Jan. 22, Feb. 19 and Feb. 26.

Named to the committee of arrangements are Harvey Baldwin, business agent of Carpenters Union 925; P. M. Lindeman, secretary of Electrical Workers Union 243, and Carl Lara, former official of Painters Union 1104.

Business at the labor council meeting also included:

Discussion of plans for labor's share of the entertainment of several Indonesians who will visit the area in February.

Discussion of new construction work at Hartnell College and announcement that a study will be made, to prevent students from doing permanent construction work.

Discussion of use of prisoners on construction work at the state prison at Soledad.

Report by Carpenters Union 925 of donation to the NAACP fund.

Report by Dry Cleaners Union 258-B of the union's new welfare plan, now effective.

Report by Electrical Workers Union 243 of the negotiations meeting in San Jose in regard to the Permanent contract.

The council adjourned after a moment of silence in respect to the memory of George D. Coroniotis, late member of Barbers Union 827.

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We wish to remind you that the first regular meeting in January will be held Jan. 8 in Salinas and Jan. 15 in Monterey, since the first Thursday of the month falls on New Year's Day and we are quite sure none of you want to attend a meeting on that date.

Also keep in mind that the election for trustees will also be held on January 8 in Salinas and Monterey at your union offices. Nominees are John Sullivan, produce driver, and Earl "Bud" Montgomery, who is employed as warehouseman at Sears.

We are arranging for some films to be shown at the next regular meetings in Salinas and Monterey and we are endeavoring to get educational films plus travelogues, so that we may see how the rest of the world lives. Both of these films would run a total of about 30 to 35 minutes.

Your interest will be shown by attendance at the meetings and if we have a good attendance, we will make this a part of the program for every regular meeting. So let's all turn out and make a good showing at the next regular meeting, January 8, in Salinas and January 15 in Monterey.

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BLOOD DONORS

The following members donated to the blood bank this month: Louis Corbari, Gerald Herrin, Glenn Hall, Russell Abbott, Paul Williams, James Hampton, George Twisselman, Jay Mills and Fred Adams. We are pleased to report that Jay Mills and Fred Adams are now members of the "gallon club." How about some of you other members? Would you like to help save a life? Sign a pledge card at your union office.

The union office will be closed Friday and Saturday, December 26 and 27, in addition to Christmas Day so that our employees may enjoy a long Christmas holiday.

In addition to the union cab companies in Salinas that were listed last week, we want to remind all members in the Monterey area that Checker Cab Company and Midway Cab Company are also 100 per cent union and merit your patronage.

Clams, Anchovies Packed on 'Row'

Frozen clams taken from Japanese waters and shipped to Monterey Cannery Row were packed at the Oxnard plant last week, providing some employment for union fish cannery workers.

Union officials said some anchovies caught by union fishermen in local waters were packed also. High seas as result of recent storms have curtailed fishing activities.

Concrete Block Work Under Way On Housing Job

Union laborers have found new work on the concrete block portion of the construction of new low-rent housing units at Soledad, a project of the Monterey county Housing Authority.

Bus. Agt. Wray D. Empie of Laborers Union 272 of Salinas said the project is under direction of contractor S. B. Abrams of Los Angeles.

Other laborers were called to Soledad to work on the prison warehouse project of Larson & Son, Empie reported.

Work in the Salinas area was held up for some days by wet weather but the dry spell of last week allowed some improvement in the work situation.

The Hollister situation continues the same, Empie said, adding that a report last week mentioned a job at the Fairview cemetery, which should have been listed as the "Fairview Cannery."

Eide Vacations In Northwest

Thomas Eide, business manager of Monterey Carpenters Union 1323, is planning a vacation trip to the Pacific Northwest over the holidays, accompanied by Mrs. Eide.

He announced they will travel by automobile to Klamath Falls, where they will spend most of the vacation time, returning after the holiday period.

Tests conducted at the University of California College of Agriculture at Davis disclosed that people forget food tastes as readily as they forget their high school algebra. Unmarked food samples were given to a panel of tasters who showed less and less taste-memory as the time between food samples was increased.

How to Save \$15 Monthly on a Slave

Washington. (LPA)—The magazine US News and World Report, in a department labelled "News You Can Use In Your Personal Planning," has the following, under "Easy Pay Raise:"

"Your maid, say, gets \$90 a month. She is 65, and has worked for you for 18 months or longer, all the while covered by the Social Security system. She can retire on a pension of \$49 a month, good for as long as she lives. Then you can rehire her at \$75 a month. Her total income goes up to \$124 a month, which is \$34 more than she gets now. You save \$15 a month on maid hire. Everybody comes out ahead except the Government. That has been checked with Social Security. Nothing illegal about it."

Two Gubernatorial Races Slated in '53

Only two states will hold gubernatorial elections next year.

They are New Jersey, whose governor is Alfred Driscoll, a Republican, and Virginia, whose governor is John Battle, a Democrat.

Listen to Frank Edwards.

Carpenters Busy At State Prison

Members of Salinas Carpenters Union 925 were called to the state prison at Soledad last week to resume work on the new permanent warehouses started months ago by Larson Construction Co. of San Francisco.

Bus. Agt. Harvey Baldwin of Local 925 said the job was delayed because of lack of steel. Carpenter foreman on the job is Bill Lassly.

The University of California recently announced the establishment of an electronics research laboratory on the Berkeley campus which will serve the university community, government, and industry through studies in many phases of electronics.

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SALINAS—Home of California Rodeo

Fed. Eyes Legal Snares; Pushes Cal. Organizing, 4-Lane Sierra Highway

(State Fed. Release)

Labor prospects for the 1953 state legislative session, a review of current organizing drives, and action on convention resolutions all were given top billing at the quarterly meeting of the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor held in San Francisco on Dec. 5, 6.

Increased benefits and extended coverage in unemployment and disability insurance and workmen's compensation will form the basis of the State Federation's social legislation program in Sacramento.

The state AFL will ask for coverage of pregnancy in the disability program and will urge \$40 maximum weekly payments in disability and unemployment insurance and workmen's compensation.

Present ceilings are \$25 in unemployment insurance, \$30 in disability insurance, and \$35 in workmen's compensation for total temporary disability.

Continued support of the organizing campaign by the AFL Marine Cooks and Stewards Union topped a discussion of organizing activities in the maritime, metal trades and office employee area.

The Southern California Metal

Trades Council drive has brought in approximately 5000 new members since the State Federation began its program of financial and organizational assistance.

In other important actions, the Executive Council voted to:

1—Congratulate both General Eisenhower and Martin P. Durkin upon the latter's appointment as Secretary of Labor.

2—Establish political education

institutes for local union leadership wherever possible.

3—Call upon Congress to establish an all-year four-lane trans-Sierra highway as a necessity for national security.

4—Investigate dissemination of anti-labor propaganda in public schools.

5—Ask for increased union participation in the State Federation's annual summer institute.

6—Endorse the Crusade for Freedom campaign for aid to anti-dictator forces in Europe and Asia. The Executive Council adjourned in memory of William Green, recently deceased president of the AFL. Pres. Thomas L. Pitts presided at the two-day sessions, held in the Whitcomb Hotel.

\$1.30 for 3 Meals, Is New Pay Rate Ordered by State

(State Fed. Release)

Value of meals served to employees as part of their wages will go up about 12 per cent on Jan. 1, 1953, to match recent increases in average food prices, James G. Bryant, director of the California State Department of Employment, announced this month.

Under the California Unemployment Insurance Act, meals which are part of the employee's wages are taxable. In the absence of a schedule of meal values stipulated in a union agreement or contract of employment, or established as a basis of compliance with any applicable law governing minimum wages, a schedule established by a regulation of the Department of Employment applies.

The present schedule has been in effect since 1948.

"The average price of foods in California has increased by about 12 per cent since 1948," Bryant said. "We are, therefore, amending the present regulation to provide a similar increase in the cash value of meals which are part of the employee's taxable wages."

The new schedule places a value of \$1.30 for three meals per day, 30 cents for breakfast, 40 cents for lunch, 60 cents for dinner, and 45 cents for a meal not identifiable as either breakfast, lunch or dinner. This represents an increase of five cents for individual meals and 15 cents for three meals per day, Bryant said.

Under certain conditions, a "judicious use of oxygen" in bessemer converters has been found to increase steel tonnage and to decrease the time required to produce it.

'Hatred Breeds Oppression'

(State Fed. Release)

Featuring a statement by George Meany, new president of the AFL, the quarterly tolerance education mailing of the California State Federation of Labor was last week issued to all AFL affiliates in the state.

Entitled "Hatred Breeds Oppression," the quarterly circular declares that "the record of the American Federation of Labor over the past 70 years is one of incessant battle not only for the improvement of the economic lot of the worker but also against the poisons of bigotry" and pledges that the AFL membership is determined to fight "against those who try to weaken our nation by fomenting prejudice."

The quarterly mailing is part of the tolerance program being sponsored by the Education Committee of the California State Federation of Labor.

Free copies of "Hatred Breeds Oppression" may be obtained by writing Labor Reports, Atran Center, 25 East 78th Street, New York 21, N. Y.

EMPLOYMENT AT NEW HIGH

More persons were employed last month than in any November in history. The Census Bureau reported that the 62.2 million civilian workers who had jobs exceeded by 900,000 the total for the corresponding month of 1951.

Nonagricultural employment rose by 900,000 in a month to reach a total of 55.5 million. The bureau said the increase was considerably larger than the usual seasonal change, and attributed it chiefly to gains in factory work and services activities.

The number of unemployed, which had dropped steadily for several months, rose by 154,000 between October and November to a level of 1.4 million, or 400,000 less than was recorded a year previously.

The agency said the slight increase was due to seasonal lay-offs in outdoor occupations.

Despite the rise, the Census Bureau said, only 2.2 per cent of the labor force was unemployed in November, 1952, compared with 2.9 per cent in November, 1951.

About one in every 200 children in the United States has epilepsy; 80 per cent of them could be spared their seizures if all were getting proper medical care.

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MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

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vertisements or signed communications printed herein.

Durkin's Appointment

President-Designate Eisenhower's appointment of Martin Durkin, general president of the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters, to be Secretary of Labor recognizes the demand which the American Federation of Labor has expressed for many years that working men and women should be represented in the cabinet just as are other segments of the population.

The fact that Durkin is a Democrat also shows political wisdom on Eisenhower's part. After all, nearly 27 million people voted for the Democratic Presidential candidate.

The interests of labor regarding legislation and the administration of laws affecting it now will be considered by a man close to the President who comes from labor's own ranks.

The personal qualifications, record, and training of Martin Durkin assure working people and the nation as a whole that the Department of Labor will be conducted for the greatest benefit for the greatest number, and that the forces of liberalism will have a quiet, earnest, and experienced spokesman in the new administration.

From a strictly political point of view, Durkin's appointment was a master stroke, Sen. Robert A. Taft to the contrary notwithstanding. Gen. Eisenhower has recognized the fact that his administration must represent all the people, not merely those who supported him in the election campaign. Eisenhower's wisdom and Taft's blindness on this point illustrate with particular force why the former was elected President and the latter remains a bridesmaid.

Welcome, ICFTU

The American Federation of Labor extends a warm welcome to the Executive Board of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions which is meeting for the first time in the U. S. at Freedom House in New York City.

Founded in 1949, after trade unions in the free countries had heeded a warning by the AFL against affiliating with the Communist-dominated World Federation of Trade Unions, the ICFTU has been a leader in the international fight against Communism.

Representing 54 million workers in 70 countries, the ICFTU has grown into a mighty force in the cause of social justice and peace. It has been in the forefront of the fight to improve living standards of working men and women, particularly in industrially underdeveloped areas.

Totalitarianism can never achieve world domination so long as there is a free trade union movement which is willing and ready to help any group of workers who are trying to raise their standard of living, and to beat back the forces of reaction whether Communist or Fascist.

That is why Stalin has tried to penetrate, to control, to conquer the free trade union movements which are the most vital challenge to his design for world conquest.

Editors — and Secrecy

In the same week that the Associated Press Managing Editors Association lambasted the Federal government for attempting to put a "cloak of secrecy" around government news, various newspapers around the country printed letters from blabbermouths who told of witnessing the explosion of the first hydrogen bomb and of how it affected them.

So serious was the breach of security that the Atomic Energy Commission and the Navy were considering prosecution of the letter writers.

Publication of the letters is a prime example of why the government feels it cannot always trust editors to censor their papers in the interest of national defense.

Looking Ahead

Let's look ahead, politically. Labor's main concern in 1954 will be to re-elect that large group of friendly Senators who were elected in 1948.

Although it is customary for the party in power to lose seats in off-year elections, the fact that so many liberals will be up for re-election in '54 could help the reactionaries offset the normal loss of seats.

Even now, it is not too early for local units of Labor's League for Political Education to look ahead to 1954 when the enemies of trade unionists will make their drive to empty the Senate of pro-labor members.



Your Security Office is at 196 San Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone OYpress 2-2480.

Take a look at your pay slip. Notice that entry of OAB, SS, OASI or other letters. After this entry you'll find a deduction of one and one-half per cent of your gross pay. That's the deduction for old-age and survivors insurance.

Just another tax? Let's see.

On Dec. 4, 1952, monthly social security checks were mailed to over five million people. Payments to these people that one month were estimated to total over \$190 million. Who are these people who receive these payments? As you would expect, a large number are men and women workers who have retired after having reached age 65. Also included in the group are aged wives of retired insured workers and also some dependent husbands of insured women workers. Then there are a few aged parents who were dependent upon their deceased child at the time of his or her death. The surprising thing, however, is that about one-fourth of all people receiving monthly social security benefit checks are young children and young widows with minor children in their care.

Social security is family business. In planning your future, in providing for your future welfare as well as that of your family, you'll want to consider social security in your plans. Social security benefits are intended to replace in part the income a person loses as a result of his retirement from work as well as replace part of the family income if the worker dies. Thus, the social security tax which you pay may help you to remain economically independent when you retire and it can provide an income to your family in the event of your death.

It's to every worker's advantage to understand more about social security and to tell his family about it, as social security is family business. Recent changes in the law are of interest to every worker. Next time you are in the vicinity of a social security office drop in and ask them for a copy of the latest informational booklet. Or, if you prefer, send a card or letter to the Social Security field office at the above address and ask for informational pamphlets.

Protect your eyes! The compensation award for loss of eyesight is pitifully small.

Two Truckers Fired Minutes After Boss Learns About Union

Providence, R. I. (LPA)—Some times the bosses aren't even subtle in their union-busting. Take the case of Alfred DeRouin and Gerald Campbell, truck drivers for Allied Sheep Products, Inc. They joined Local 251, AFL Teamsters, last April, and on May 2 the union's business agent, Arthur Scofield, called on the company treasurer, Samuel J. Young, but Young was "too busy" to see him. A few minutes later, DeRouin and Campbell came back from a delivery—and were promptly fired.

At the unfair-labor-practice hearing in October, Young argued vaguely that DeRouin was generally "abusive" and Campbell "very lazy." NLRB trial examiner C. W. Whittemore found his testimony unconvincing and recommended reinstatement and back pay in his report of November 21.

CONSUMERS GET BREAK ON RATES

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Consumers of electric power here saved more than the city's electric system cost when it was purchased from a private power company, the Chattanooga Power Board reported.

The city consumers paid \$10,821,000 for power during the 1951-52 fiscal year. If rates had been the same as when the system was bought from the Tennessee Electric Power Co. in 1939, their

bills would have amounted to over twice as much.

Since the purchase price was \$10,850,000, the users of electricity furnished by the municipal system saved \$303,000 more than they paid for the power company properties.



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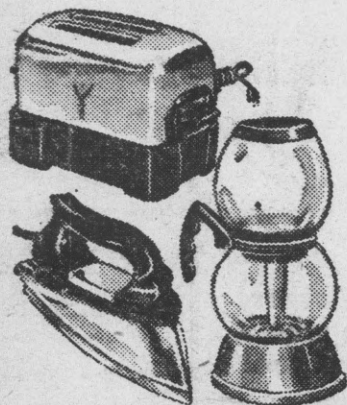


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**BLS SAFETY
FILM READY**

A new half-hour sound movie, "Design for Safety," showing how safety education can be used in college curricula, is available at the Bureau of Labor Standards, Washington 25, D. C.

Until the first of the year, the film prints will be reserved for use on television. Thereafter, they will be lent on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference given to colleges of engineering and industrial safety groups, in that order.

"Design for Safety" is one of the results of the President's Conference on Industrial Safety. It carries out the Conference Committee on Education's recommendations.

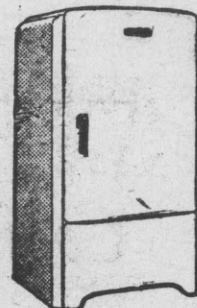
**Union Cooperation Gains
Small Farmers \$39,000
Extra in Crop Rebates**

Hammond, La. (LPA) — Union cooperation paid off for small farmers in this area to the tune of an extra \$39,000. Members of Louisiana Fruit and Vegetable Producers Union, Local 312 of the National Agricultural Workers, garnered that amount in rebates of seven cents a crate on their strawberry crop by marketing it through a central agency.

Many members used part of the proceeds to pay their union dues, then deposited the rest with the Fruit and Vegetable Producers' Credit Union, established by the local. With a large share of the rebates unclaimed in late November it was decided that all amounts remaining in the local's hands December 31 would be placed in the credit union and credited to each member to whom a share belongs.

Beginning January 1 the credit union will make loans to its members, who also are members of Local 312, against 1953 crops, freeing them from high interest charges by other lending agencies.

To some degree, a union is like a chain, with each link (member) needing the support of the others. Be a strong, dependable "link."



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WAYS TO HEALTH

By Dr. Harold Lemesh, D.C.
"WINTERTIME ILLS"

As a rule the winter and spring months are more productive of disease than the other months. This is due to the fact that there are several ailments that are most prevalent in cold weather.

First of all let us consider the most widespread of all winter ills, the common cold. Because it is so common, many people are inclined to accept it as a matter of course and consider it an ailment of little consequence. This attitude is wrong for three reasons: First, because statistics show there is more loss of time from work due to colds than to any other ailment; second, because enormous sums of money are spent for remedies for colds every year; third, because colds often pave the way for serious diseases. So, every means should be employed to prevent colds.

Another disease especially prevalent in winter is influenza. So widespread has this ailment been that a description of it is not necessary. It is enough to say here that influenza should never, even in mild cases, be considered lightly. Everyone who has experienced it knows how it weakens the body.

Another ailment that strikes hardest in winter is bronchitis, of which there are two kinds—acute and chronic. Both are characterized by coughing due to inflammation of the lining of the bronchial tubes. Acute bronchitis is usually ushered in with a head cold, a cough, and pains or a sense of oppression about the chest. Breathing is difficult. The sputum, at first frothy and scanty, later becomes more abundant and mixed with pus.

Chronic bronchitis is often, not always, the result of repeated acute attacks. Because it is more severe in winter than in other seasons, chronic bronchitis is popularly known in some localities as "winter cough."

The bodily injury, the expense, and the decreased production caused by the above-mentioned winter-time ills are so great that every precaution should be taken to prevent them. The best protection against all of them is a healthy, vigorous body, for such a body is most resistant to disease. Here, then are some practical suggestions to be followed now to ward off winter diseases:

1. Pay attention to your diet. Eat meals that provide sufficient vitamins, minerals, proteins, starches and fats.
2. Breathe as much fresh air as possible. Walk briskly in the open air with your body erect, every day if you can. Bedroom windows should be kept open at night.
3. Wear enough clothing to protect the body from cold and dampness.
4. Avoid exposure to drafts as far as possible, especially when perspiring.
5. Avoid fatigue. Whenever conditions permit get plenty of rest.
6. For cleansing take a warm or tepid bath instead of a hot one.

WARNING GIVEN UNION PAINTERS ON 'FREE JOBS'

Clarence Vezey, manager of the Bay Area Painters Welfare Fund, has issued the following warning to all union painters:

"Any painter working under the Bay Area Joint Committee Agreement will not be covered for accident benefits under the Welfare Fund Plan where he is donating his labor on 'gratis' jobs.

"It is up to the member to make sure that the person or persons for whom he is doing the 'gratis' job has adequate compensation insurance.

"The above ruling was made by the Trustees of the Painters Welfare Fund, and we would appreciate your notifying your membership so there will be no misunderstanding in the future when claims are declined which are affected by the above action."

Protect your eyes! The compensation award for loss of eyesight is pitifully small.

Big Bosses Toughen Up On Unions

Many industrial moguls have been tough towards unions for a long time, but some are getting tougher now, with the change in Administrations. Two top mediators so reported this week—and they voiced apprehension that the situation presaged strife ahead.

One who sounded the warning was David L. Cole, new director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. In a speech at Los Angeles, he declared that "there are some industry representatives who believe it is now their chance to demand new laws favoring their side."

Many trade unionists could be expected to "fight desperately" against such anti-labor moves, and this could lead to grave conflict, Cole said.

"Such attitudes portend a period of industrial struggles which could make collective bargaining deteriorate," he added, "and which might

well lead to enactment of laws giving industrial relations a setback from which it would take years to recover."

A similar warning was sounded by the chairman of the New York State Mediation Board, Merlyn S. Pitzele, who is also labor editor of the magazine, "Business Week," and as such, close to management.

Pitzele told a state legislative hearing in New York City that a "stiffening attitude toward union demands" has been evident since about the time the Taft-Hartley Act was passed in 1947, and that that act "accelerated" it. One result is a rapid increase in the number of disputes in which the State Mediation Board's aid is needed.

"Management has got its nerve back and is willing to fight this year," Pitzele said. "General Motors held out against the union in a strike of 126 days, and the steel strike lasted 54 days, to the sur-

prise of everyone including the union.

"All industry has been encouraged by those corporation leaders to resist. The result is that mediation is no longer the breeze it once was."

An example of this hard-boiled attitude of employers was provided by a settlement announced by the International Harvester Company in an 87-day strike covering plants in several Midwestern states. The company claimed a "complete victory," while the union charged strikebreaking and efforts to smash the union.

One factor in the defeat, however, was the fact that the union, the Farm Equipment-United Electric Workers, has been accused of Communist leadership, which may have led the 25,000 Harvester employees down a "blind alley" in the dispute, thus playing into management hands.

103 Out of 128 Candidates Backed By New York Carpenters Elected

New York City (Special to ILNS). —Contrary to most of labor's political endorsements in the 1952 election, those of the New York District Council of Carpenters scored a smashing success. Of the 128 candidates for national and state office endorsed by its Political Education Committee, 103 were elected and 25 turned down.

Outstanding among the carpenters' candidates was Irving M. Ives,

U.S. Senator, Republican, from New York, who won re-election by the unprecedented plurality of 1,287,000 over his nearest Democratic opponent. Also elected with the help of the carpenters and their friends were 18 Congressmen from New York City and vicinity. For the New York State Legislature the committee marked 85 winners, among them Republican State Senator MacNeil Mitchell.

Production Hits All-Time Record

The nation's production of goods and services hit an all-time record rate in the quarter which ended Sept. 30 of \$343 billion a year, the Department of Commerce reported.

The new peak was achieved despite a slow-down in steel production due to the strike in that industry.

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Shifting Position On Union Shop Is Refusal to Bargain

Modesto, Calif. (LPA)—A boss can argue against a union shop if he wants to, but constantly shifting his position on it is just refusing to bargain, the National Labor Relations Board ruled on Nov. 21.

Stanislaus Implement & Hardware Co. tried that tactic, and others, in negotiations with Lodge 41, International Association of Machinists, during the first half of 1951. It was the company's second offense, it having been caught handing out a pay raise, among other things, just before the certification election the year before.

Negotiating for the firm was Theodore Haugh, a representative of the California Employers Association. First he argued against a union-shop clause on the ground that an authorization election was coming up and the union "might seek to gain votes" by pointing out that the company had included it in the proposals. Later, however, he said the CEA had a "new policy" against discussing the union shop before a UA election, that to do so would be "illegal." (It wouldn't, said NLRB.)

Then the workers voted overwhelmingly for the union shop. So the company then said the union shop was "compulsory unionism" and "unacceptable." Remarked Trial Examiner Herman Marx in his report on the case last February: "This position was not stated until almost three months after the negotiations opened, after approximately a dozen meetings had been held and after the government had gone to the expense, and the parties had taken the time and trouble, of holding an authorization election."

The NLRB found also that the firm handed out another pre-election pay raise a week before the union-shop balloting, stalled later negotiating sessions, refused necessary information and bragged that it was "stalling" until it could get a decertification election.

The board also ordered it to rehire and reimburse Joseph B. Sims, discriminated against for his union activity. In the case of the year before, it had been accused of laying off Sims for this reason, but the examiner held it to be a legitimate layoff. But, by failing to take on Sims since, it proved its guilt, the second examiner held, and the NLRB agreed.

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES RISE

Non-farm employment reached an all-time record of 47,705,000 workers in mid-October, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported, an increase of 12,000 over the September figure. It was 800,000 above the total for October 1951.

Manufacturing employment hit a post-war peak on October 15 of 16.4 million, a rise of 440,000 in one year. The increase was divided about equally between makers of consumer goods and defense items.

The payroll climb, however, was marred by a seasonal decline of 80,000 construction workers and a drop in the number of canning industry employees.

Kitchen Is Worst Room in the House

New York. (LPA)—The kitchen is the most dangerous room in the house, but a few simple safety precautions can cut down on the number of accidents there, parents and teachers attending the city's annual safety institute were told.

A fire department representative warned against the use of cleaning fluids, such as naphtha or benzene, in the kitchen; wearing of frilly clothes while working near the stove; or placing flammable materials on the range. He demonstrated methods of putting out home fires.

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THE EYES HAVE IT!

We've called our story about your eyes "The Eyes Have It" and we did it for a good reason. Let us define what we mean by "it" in this instance. By "it," we mean the world and all that is in it—the bright sunshine, the flamboyant colors of the flowers and the birds, the personality in a child's face, the beauty of a woman's smile, a rippling wheat field, eggs in a blue bowl, a chestnut mare streaking through the paddock, black night luminous with stars—so different from the black night that belongs to the blind with never a star to spark its darkness. All these everyday things make a world—a wonderful world of vision and of beauty which man does not appreciate unless he think he has lost it.

Readers, your eyes have it—have all of it—all this world to look at and enjoy. If you lost it, by loss of your sight, you'd do anything to get it back. Do better than that—take care of your sight—good care of it—so you will never lose it.

Just remember each of us has just one pair of eyes. We are born with them and they must last us through life. We're on our last pair!

In this brief article we want to tell you a little bit about how the eye is made and functions—the principal diseases that affect it—and how best you can preserve your eyes and your sight.

Let's look at the eyes. We can see at a glance they all have eyebrows to keep perspiration from dropping in them. They have eyelids which form a protective covering and spread the moisture. And they have eyelashes to help keep out dust and dirt. They all have a dark pupil—the window that admits pictures into the photographic room which sends messages to the brain for interpretation.

There are many things which you cannot see at a glance. First the eye has three layers.

First the **sciera** or outer coat—the tough, white portion made up of strong fibrous tissues covering that portion of the eyeball which does not see. This coat thins out and is transparent in front, this part being called the cornea. This outer coat preserves the form of the eye.

Second, we have the middle coat—the **choroid**, which is a layer of small blood vessels which nourish the eye. In addition this middle coat has a **ciliary body** which controls the shape of the lens and an iris which regulates the amount of light entering the eyes.

Third, there is the **retina**, the inner coat of the eye. This is a delicate sheet of nerve tissue continuous with the brain through the optic nerve. It is the seeing portion of the eye and consists of 10 layers. The most interesting and the most important layer of the retina is the **rods** and the **cones** which are really a whole mass of little organs of seeing. The cones enable one to discern form and color. Color-blind persons have cones that are not functioning properly. The cones are located near the center of the retina, while the rods are near the edges. These latter are concerned with the detection of movement and with seeing in darkness. People afflicted with "night blindness" have rods that are functioning poorly.

Inside, your eye is divided into two sections by a partition which contains the lens and the muscular apparatus for changing its shape.

Any of our readers attracted by photography will be interested to know that the human eye has often been compared to a living camera.

The iris of your eye is a muscular shutter for regulating the amount of light that gets in the eye. The pupil is simply the hole through this shutter. The lens of your eye is like the lens of your camera and your retina may be compared to the camera's film.

In a camera you can move the lens forward and backward. The eye cannot do this but it changes the shape of the lens by using certain muscles. In near-sighted persons a part of these muscles is poorly developed because of non-use. In farsightedness it is over-developed because of excessive use. So much for a cursory analysis

of the eye's make up. This amazing, complicated mechanism is perfectly constructed to give us the sight we have—to man only belongs this miracle of vision which is our type.

Did you ever stop to think what our vision might be like if our eyes had been constructed differently?

Alexander Pope in his "Essay on Man" (1732) said:

"Why has not man a microscopic eye?"

For this plain reason: man is not a fly."

If our eyes were constructed like the eyes of a fly or mosquito, we'd never be able to see a movie or read a newspaper. Every time you looked at the movie screen you'd see each actor not one but a hundred odd times. Nature has given each of her creatures the eye best suited to its nature.

And this remarkable eye of ours serves us well. Now what about the things that can go wrong with it?

We explained briefly above about Nearsightedness (Myopia) and Farsightedness (Hyperopia). These conditions can be adequately corrected with glasses. We exert just one word of caution here. Always go to a reputable eye doctor, have a proper examination and then have your glasses made by a reliable optometrist. Don't get "mail order" glasses or select a pair from a counter in a five and ten cent store. Remember those eyes of yours are the only ones you'll ever have.

Astigmatism is another common affliction of the eye. This results from an abnormal curvature of the cornea or the lens which results in a distortion of the image on the retina. This may not cause any appreciable distress to the one who has it but sometimes if allowed to go uncorrected may cause serious disturbances in the eyes. Usually glasses are needed, especially for close work.

Now we come to the most important part of our whole article. What causes blindness?

By some pretty accurate estimates, 15 per cent of the cases of blindness are caused by syphilis. It may strike any part of the eye but the trouble there may not be noticeable until many years after the patient has become infected. Prompt, complete treatment of this disease itself is the best preventive of blindness or impairment of sight from the disease.

There is another communicable disease which can and often does result in blindness. This is Trachoma, in which the eyelids become granulated, thickened and red. The sulfa drugs are most effective in treating this disease.

The single most important cause of blindness is cataract. It accounts for about 25 per cent of all blindness.

A cataract is an opacity of the crystalline lens—all of it or part of it. The lens is behind the pupil. It is that part of the eye that focuses rays of light on the retina. When a cataract is fully developed, light will not pass through the lens but is reflected back.

Many times when a cataract begins, its cause is tied up with the patient's general condition. The teeth, sinuses, blood, glands or some other part of the body that isn't functioning properly may become the cause of a cataract. Or the trouble may be directly caused by eyestrain or an accident.

If a cataract begins to form, expert medical care is necessary. By improving the general condition of the body, the cataract may be prevented from spreading. Fortunately they form slowly, usually taking several years before vision is cut off. If the cataract continues to develop, an operation will be necessary eventually. Here too, there is good news. Great strides have been made in eye surgery, and cataract operations are successful in nine cases out of 10.

Glaucoma is another serious cause of blindness particularly among middle aged and older persons. It is responsible for approximately 11 per cent of the blindness in these age groups.

We can't bring home to our readers too strongly, the danger of this disease. It is the worst of all

(Continued on Page 12)

TEAMSTERS SHOULD BE MADE ROAD SAFETY OFFICIALS SAYS CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF

General Truck Drivers, Warehousemen and Helpers 315, through their secretary, Bro. Erle E. Carter, are calling to the attention of the membership and the public generally the praise of Sheriff Glen Jones in regard to the professional truck drivers. The article is as follows:

Truck drivers should be commissioned as special officers to aid in highway safety, according to Glen Jones, sheriff of Clark County, Nevada.

Jones, in a glowing tribute to truck driver safety, courtesy and good judgment, recently wrote a letter to the Pacific Intermountain Express at Los Angeles concerning the alert conduct of a driver, Orville F. Nicola.

It was in this letter that Jones advanced his opinion that professional truck drivers should get special recognition for their highway safety work and that truck drivers should act as a board of judges to review license applications of careless drivers.

"It is my opinion after 33 years' experience in police work, that most truck drivers, above the grade of a pick-up, should be commissioned special officers on the highway."

"Ninety per cent of standard road courtesies have been born and put into comment effect by truck drivers, such as outstanding safety and flash signals. It is the truck driver that keeps the potential victim from being completely demolished at the top of the hill by hailing him back until the road is safe ahead."

"In Clark County, we depend on the truck driver on the highway, and to my knowledge in the seven years I have been in this office, I do not recall a legitimate complaint coming into this office

against a truck driver. We also feel quite relieved when we receive a report that there is a big truck standing by."

"I would like to see the time come when the careless drivers have to be re-schooled before a board composed of three to five truck drivers."

Barmen Start Non-Attendance Fees in March

The recently-approved "compulsory meeting and non-attendance assessment" provision of Bartenders Union 577 of Santa Clara County will become effective on March 1, 1953—first time this provision has been effective since 1939.

Union Secy. J. H. Morgan said the assessment for not attending a meeting a month will be \$1.

To make it easier for all members to attend a meeting, there will be two sessions each month, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on the first Monday of the month.

Direct Wage Queries To Regional Boards

Beginning Monday, Jan. 5, inquiries regarding enforcement of wage-hour laws must be directed to the appropriate regional Wage Stabilization Board offices. Personnel of the Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department will no longer be available for investigation because of reduced appropriations allotted by Congress.



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What to Do About It

By I. B. Padway

And now, my children, gather round to witness the second horse opera to be played by that famous cast, the celebrated Republican Players. It will be a long time before we in America forget that famous Nixon horse opera of the 1952 pre-election era.

The second one will unfold itself immediately after Congress convenes in January, 1953. The cast: The Big Bad Wolf—Taft and his ilk who are really the National Association of Manufacturers in disguise; and Little Red Riding Hood—the lowly workman.

The scene: The Congress of the United States. The plot: For 20 long years the big bad wolf has waited, fangs drooling, breathing fire and brimstone, and eyes red from frustration for an opportunity to show the workman just who is the master. For 20 years the lash has been stayed by a Democratic Congress, except that famous "do-nothing Congress" that enacted the Taft-Hartley law. But now they're in the saddle and you can just literally see old banjo-eyed Taft licking his chops and saying under his breath, "Ah-hah! Coises—now I'll larn 'em!"

For 20 long years labor has made advanced strides and gains towards decent living wages, hours and working conditions, and the big question is: Will the Tafts, the Jenners and the McCarthys suddenly concentrate on oppressing labor? To Taft, this is no new approach. To McCarthy it spells a new attack, as his forte is character assassination and it offers him a beautiful field in which to operate. Likewise, to Jenner this will be something new. As you know, hell hath no fury in comparison to a fellow who suddenly latches onto a new field of persecution.

The big boys came through with the shekels in this last election. One had only to witness the big jamboree the night before election, which I am told cost somewhere in the neighborhood of a million bucks. Certainly they expect to get dividends on this investment and the field where it will evidence itself most is in the field of labor legislation.

The big question in the mind of organized labor today is: Will we get a repitition of labor oppression by legislative fiat enacted by this coming administration in Congress? Will the present slave labor law, the Taft-Hartley law, be amended to bring back all the old tactics: employers' labor spies; detective agencies who work on the inside of labor unions in order to destroy the unions; yellow dog contracts which must be signed first by an employee in order to obtain his employment and in which he agrees that he will not join a labor union; tear gas and armed strikebreakers?

Some people will say even a wolf would not be guilty of such tactics. They might even say that my thinking is so warped as not to merit any consideration, but I say to you: Don't you believe it. What I have said in relation to labor spies, strikebreakers, tear gas, disruption of union activities and yellow dog contracts is history and was not outlawed until the advent of the Democratic regime 20 years ago.

The horse opera will commence after the first of the year and we in labor can only sit by with our fingers crossed hoping against hope that the old "happy days" of the Manufacturers' Associations, Associated Farmers and other organizations of the same stripe will not bring back into being the old melodrama of the 1900s up to the early 1930s.

It took the Republican Party 20 years to get back into office and, like the big bad wolf who met his master in the woodsman, the people might give the ax to those who persecute labor.



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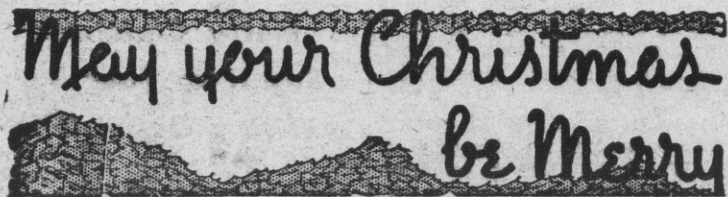
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Reds War on Jews—Meany

(State Fed. Release)

New York.—Soviet Russia has convicted itself "of the crime of genocide on a scale unparalleled in human history," George Meany, AFL president, told 1500 delegates to the 29th annual convention of the National Committee for Labor Israel at the Commodore Hotel here.

Meany declared that the Communist trials of former Communist leaders at Prague, Czechoslovakia, disclosed that the Reds have "a new bogey man."

"To the crimes of Trotskyism and Titoism," said Meany, "they have now added the crime of Zionism. . . . There is no question at all but that the Soviets are engaged in a wholesale effort to exterminate Judaism. They are committing the crime of genocide."

Meany said that the accused at Prague were "beaten and drugged in the current Communist war on Zionism, Israel, and Histadrut." He pointed out that the Jews had been forced out of the professions, the arts and so-called trade unions in Soviet Russia.

"The Jews, of all peoples, and the Histadrut, of all organizations, cannot be silent in these days or fail to take a position against the Communist threat," Meany declared.

He pledged the continued help of the AFL to Israel and Histadrut, saying: "We are going to increase our interest and see to it that the message of Histadrut is carried to every worker in America."

As against the Soviet policy to enslave all workers, Meany cited the Federation stand to free all workers.

"The world is a small place," he said. "We believe that the greed and oppression of workers in any place in the world is bound to react to the detriment of the workers here in our own country."

A message written by William Green before he died was read to the convention. In it, he extolled the role of Histadrut in building Israel. Green declared that "in no other free country in modern times has organized labor played such a key role in national affairs."

'Surplus' Retailer Agrees To Halt 'Surplus' Claims

Chicago. (LPA)—Normscope Surplus Sales has promised the Federal Trade Commission to stop representing its sun glasses, binoculars and T shirts as "surplus" of any armed service or government, that they were bought from such armed services or government, that they meet armed service or Bureau of Standards specifications, that the regular retail price is actually higher than the one being charged, that the merchandise is guaranteed unless the guarantee is specific, or that the binoculars were made on Karl Zeiss or other well-known tools or are the choice of any of the armed services, unless any of the above claims happens to be true.

Courage in Oil Fire Gains \$1000 and Honor

Los Angeles. (LPA)—The fine seamanship and courage they displayed in helping save the tanker on which they remained during an oil fire which destroyed another vessel was rewarded with checks for \$1000 to each of five members of the AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific.

Accompanying each check from the Union Oil Company of California was a certificate of honor. The crewmen were on the tanker Lompoc when the Victory Kelly was lost last July at Oleum. "In the finest tradition of seamanship," the citation read, the recipient "risked his life to combat an oil fire and save his vessel. The courage and presence of mind displayed on that occasion by him and his fellow crewmen were important factors in minimizing property damage and loss of human life."



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Clerks Progress In Pay Less Talk

Negotiations with Payless Drug Co. of Stockton continue this week by members of Retail Clerks 197, Stockton, according to Secy. Emmet Hughes of that union.

Two meetings in this respect have been held previously, follow-

ing a union NLRB victory when employees at the Stockton store voted by an overwhelming majority for union representation.

The store is being represented in the contract talks by the San Joaquin Industrial Assn.

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THE EYES HAVE IT!

(Continued from Page 9)

the eye diseases. What it actually consists of is an abnormally increased hardening of the eyeball brought about when the outflow of fluid normally circulating in the eyeball becomes blocked, thus creating pressure on the optic nerve and killing the nerve fibers.

Glaucoma is terribly insidious. It is estimated that some 800,000 persons in the United States are suffering from it and will lose their sight unless they are found, warned and treated in time.

As stated above, Glaucoma is a disease of later life occurring most frequently after 50. Its symptoms are usually so gradual that they go unnoticed. First there may be headaches. Then you may notice, especially at night, that lights have halos and rainbows around them. Later you may feel that you can see only straight ahead and not on the sides. These are the symptoms—but you shouldn't wait for symptoms. After 50, you should see your oculist every year. Glaucoma can be detected early by an ophthalmologist and this is significant for any persons we may have frightened by our warning. Glaucoma can absolutely be checked by medicines, or if necessary by surgery—but remember this. It must be caught in time! Glaucoma can be checked but it can never be cured. Whatever part of the vision is gone cannot be restored and so it is most urgent that the disease be checked as soon as possible.

Those are the major causes of blindness. Remember, we mentioned some cataracts are caused by injuries. Some blindness is too. A simple thing like getting a cinder in your eye can cause a permanent injury to your eye and impairment of sight. We say this, not to frighten any of our readers, but to warn them to be careful when they get anything in their eye. One of the gravest dangers is the common practice of allowing an untrained person to remove a foreign particle from the eye. Should the eyeball be cut or scratched in the process, there is possibility of infection and complete loss of sight. The safest method of removing foreign particles is to irrigate the eye by dropping tepid, boiled water or boric acid solution into the eye at the corner near the nose, the head turned so the fluid runs out the other corner. Use a clean medicine dropper. If irrigation fails to remove the particle, go to a doctor at once—don't let amateurs probe at your eye.

Perhaps 99 times out of 100 you could get something in your eye and get it out without any trouble developing. But that 100th case might be the one to cause loss or impairment of your sight. The author of this article read a big book of cases about persons who went blind from causes no more serious than "something in the eye." Let me tell you about just one typical case. Joseph Bronson got a tiny chip of enamel in his eye. He washed his eye with warm boric acid solution but the chip had lodged in his cornea and did not wash out. It became so painful he went to a physician who removed it. Twenty-four hours later, how-

Labor Man Named Vice-President Of Bechtel Corp.

John F. O'Connell, a member of Shipfitters and Helpers Local 9 and all-round mechanic who rose from the ranks into personnel work and labor relations, has been named vice-president of the giant Bechtel Corporation, world-wide construction and engineering firm, it was announced last week.

He received the immediate congratulations of Secy. Al Wynn of Bay Cities Metal Trades Council, Secy. Tom Rotell of Pacific Coast Metal Trades Council, Secy. Andrew Chioino of Shipfitters 9, and Pres. Chas. J. MacGowan of the Intl. Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

Bro. O'Connell has worked with these men and many other union members and officers in the years past. During the war the Metal Trades Council recommended him for the job of personnel manager at the Marin Shipyards. Later he went into Bechtel's labor relations division, and he has been there since.

He is still continuing as head of industrial relations on his new job as a vice-president, so there will be no immediate successor to his former duties.

Bechtel Corp. has numerous large construction jobs under way in the U.S. and as many more in distant overseas locations. It is generally considered one of the world's leading and largest construction firms.

Teamsters Sign Yosemite Park Curry Contract

Wendel J. Kiser, secretary-treasurer and business representative of Teamsters 386, Modesto, has reported this week that negotiations have been completed for members employed by the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. in Yosemite Park.

An agreement has been signed, Bro. Kiser said, resulting in a 5 per cent increase in wages for "all classifications." In addition, certain clarifications of the agreement have been satisfactorily "worked out."

ever, the pain had become agonizing and Mr. Bronson went to an oculist. The oculist started treatment for ulcer of the cornea. For a week the patient suffered excruciating pain and nothing gave him relief for long. In spite of all that was done, the ulcer spread, and completely destroyed the sight of one eye which had to be removed in order to save the other. And all because of "something in the eye."

We want to caution all our people here, to be extremely careful in working with tools, using welding torches, etc. Industrial accidents alone account for 15 per cent of the blindness in this country. We ask our people to warn their children also. Seven per cent of blindness among young people is caused by injuries to eyes by balls, stones, sticks, scissors, knives, whips, pea shooters, firecrackers and BB guns.

We wish space would permit further comments on care of your eyes. We should like to mention "Conjunctivitis" which our mothers used to call "pink eye." This is usually a simple disease but may become serious. It is caused by bacteria, viruses or allergies. It is best to consult a physician whenever eyes become red or inflamed.

In conclusion bear these few pointers in mind to safeguard your precious sight:

(1) Avoid disturbing glare in reading or working. (2) Cold salt-water compresses make a simple effective remedy for tired eyes. (3) Have foreign bodies removed from your eyes by a doctor. (4) Avoid rubbing the eyes with your fingers. This will avoid infections. (5) Have an eye check up every two or three years. After 50—every year.

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Seek Area Meetings On Public Relations for Labor

Since the beginning, organized labor has sorely needed public sympathy in its battle for recognition, and during the '30s made great gains in that respect.

Is organized labor now losing what public sympathy was gained in the years just past?

Some think so and say public relations need more attention. The problem was taken up, together with suggested remedies, during the Nov. 29 and 30 California Labor Press Conference at Santa Barbara. As a result, a request for area or section meetings of labor editors during the year was made to the State Federation. One workshop Saturday afternoon at the Samarkand Hotel was devoted to study of "How to Use the Labor Press for Public Relations."

Sigmund Arywitz, Los Angeles, public relations and education director for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, one of the big leaders among unions in this field, was the leader. He was assisted by a panel including Jim Short, editor of the Southern California Teamster; Jimmy Hicks, editor of the Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin; Max Mont, Jewish Labor Committee, Los Angeles; Bill Ring, now of the Bakers International Union Label Promotion Department, and until recently of Los Angeles, and Wayne Hull of Los Angeles, Painters District Council 36.

The session culminated in a unanimous vote for a request to be sent to the State Federation Executive Board asking that arrangements be made for labor paper editors in various sections of the state to have meetings during the year, quarterly or twice a year at least. These meetings, augmenting the annual Labor Press Conference, held last weekend for the third time, are needed—the labor editors and union representatives held—because of the acute need now to improve public relations. It was agreed this responsibility falls largely upon the local labor paper in each area, but it also involves all labor publications.

The public relations session started off with an able presentation of the problem by Bro. Arywitz of the ILGWU who has played a prominent part so far in all of the California Labor Press Conferences. He is editor of the ILGWU Southern California weekly paper.

In an outline to start and guide discussion, Bro. Arywitz defined the problem in the flat statement: "Public sympathy for the labor movement has declined during the last decade."

Some reasons for this decline of friends for labor were listed as:

1. Constant barrage in the daily press against labor as being selfish and power-hungry.

2. Public feeling the labor movement is no longer the underdog and may instead be getting "too strong."

3. Resentment from unorganized workers jealous of gains made by union members.

4. Failure of union members to realize that without the labor movement their living standards would not have gone up.

Discussion then centered on how the labor paper may combat the problem, thus helping to advance the union, further organization, add to the prestige of the movement and its members, so both may have rightful recognition and play their proper parts in the community.

It was brought out in the meeting that the labor paper needs to reach all union members and must be read to be effective, and that when read by "outsiders" it also can help further union interests. It was generally agreed by the group that the labor paper's primary purpose is to "put labor's best foot forward." Telling the true facts of labor's motives and goals and needs will help win friends, it was generally agreed.

Jimmy Hicks, that livewire labor editor who now serves on the Sacramento City Council and also conducts a weekly radio broadcast

as adjunct to his labor editor duties, outlined duties of the labor editor.

"It is the duty of the labor editor to place before union members and the public those truths which are generally omitted from the commercial press," Bro. Hicks said.

Since, "A paper that is not read is just a waste of opportunity," it is important to make the paper newsy, readable and acceptable from a policy standpoint, Hicks pointed out.

Wayne Hull of Painters District Council 36, Los Angeles, which publishes its own paper, "Thirty-Six," said there is increasing need to reach the members and promote education within the unions.

Max Mont of the Jewish Labor Committee urged labor papers to print some news to appeal to the various minority groups, war veterans and special interest contingents.

Bill Ring of the Bakers Union, prominent among those who have a well developed public relations program, said:

"Where there is no labor press, it is difficult or just plain impossible to reach union members. The labor paper is the best and usually the only reliable means to reach the members."

Ring says the Bakers have found highly successful a program to "humanize the news," with much use of pictures.

Jim Short of the Southern California Teamster said policy of the papers needs defining. "Too often," he said, "policy isn't made but just grows."

"The editor of the labor paper is a public relations officer, whether or not he is specifically named that," Bro. Short said, "and the labor press is the primary public relations medium and a vital aid to organization."

After hearing remarks from all members of the panel and engaging in some general discussion the public relations workshop group heard from a union member and officer on the subject.

It was a distinct advantage to the group to have present Samuel Otto of Los Angeles, Pacific Coast director for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. After listening thoughtfully to the comments of the editors and experts he modestly and simply, but in a very apt and to the point fashion, summarized the needs of unions in the public relations field.

"Maybe you would like to hear from a long time union man what the union wants from public relations," Bro. Otto offered, and the group listened attentively while he explained.

"Labor today recognizes the importance of doing a public relations job," said Bro. Otto, "because there are so many doing a public relations job against us."

"Education is needed; it is amazing the amount of ignorance there is regarding the labor movement," he pointed out.

Generally, he declared, the labor union has overcome its old time distrust and now wants a public relations man, the best to be had, and also wants the labor paper.

Central Labor Councils, as he sees it, are responsible for public relations in each area.

"The big job of the labor press," as Otto defined it, "is to see that the reading public may no longer think of labor leaders in terms of racketeers, but know them as they are, leaders of their people and in the community."

At the conclusion of the workshop, Bro. Arywitz briefly summed up the thinking of the group and put to vote the question of section meetings of labor editors to further public relations. The group unanimously voted in favor of this idea, which now goes to the State Federation Executive Board for consideration and possible action.

Labor Has a Great Deal at Stake In Sacramento

Organized labor has not had easy sailing so far at Sacramento, stemming the tide of anti-labor bills sought to be made into law. But 1953 will see a need for extra work there.

State Federation Secretary C. J. Haggerty gave the warning to the 85 labor editors and union representatives Sunday afternoon at the closing session of the third annual California Labor Press Conference, in Samarkand Hotel, Santa Barbara.

"As always, I urge you labor editors to alert your members to the dangers that exist," the State Federation secretary said. "Many union members grow apathetic to the need for vigilance because they now enjoy comparatively good wages and other advantages."

"But," he warned, "they can lose all by passage of a few bad labor laws."

Speaking on "The Labor Press and the State Legislature," Bro. Haggerty pointed out that each session of the law makers in Sacramento sees numerous anti-labor laws submitted.

But the coming year, he pointed out, is expected to be somewhat worse than usual in this respect.

The year 1953 will probably be particularly trying, Secy. Haggerty said, "because Republicans and some Democrats seem to think that the time is here to lower the boom on labor."

That is the way some have construed the recent election, the State Federation executive officer explained.

Even without added difficulty there is sufficient effort required to watch for and try to prevent anti-labor bills becoming the law of the state, he pointed out. The legislators must consider some 5500 bills in 130 days, he remarked, adding it seems impossible a man could give due consideration to that many in the time. Of course, the State Federation representatives at Sacramento, headed by Haggerty, must keep on their toes to classify, study and watch progress of the various bills, too. In past years the State Federation on behalf of its one and a half million members has succeeded in blocking some vicious anti-labor laws, but some have gone into effect and constant vigilance is needed there.

Each session brings its quota of "hot cargo" bills, Haggerty said. Last time there were four. Naturally, the State Federation always fights these tooth and nail, and no good unionist or believer in fair labor conditions needs to be told why.

"As for opposition—it's heavy. For instance, the State Federation secretary said there are 75 persons, who have influence with the members of the State Senate and State Assembly, who oppose workmen's compensation laws."

That is just one example of the great pressure from lobbyists, from the forces opposing the aims of labor.

Haggerty does not describe the State Federation representatives who speak on behalf of 2300 unions in California now, as lobbyists. "We are not lobbyists, but supplicants," he said, "since we appeal for better conditions in the interest of the whole state and not for a segment only."

The great volume of bills introduced in the legislature, with more than two thirds coming from the Assembly, makes it difficult for legislators to vote intelligently. This occasions the lobbyists and the pressure put upon the elected law makers, Haggerty explained.

And of course there is still the Taft-Hartley law, when anti-labor laws are considered. Haggerty once again scored that and stated labor has not yet felt its full effect since only four of its 28 provisions versus labor have been enforced.

At conclusion of his talk, there were questions and discussion from the labor press audience. During the discussion, need for weekly or oftener reports from Sacramento on labor matters was mentioned.

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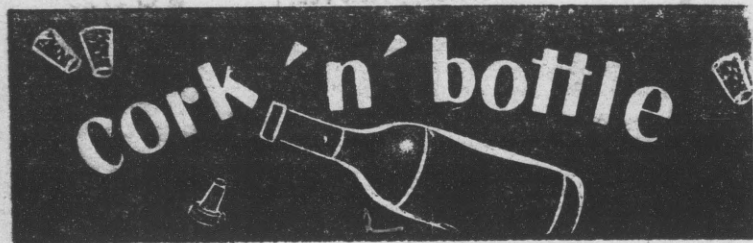
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'53 LOOKS DARK -- UNEMPLOYMENT OR GOOSE STEP; BOTH ARE BAD

By C. S. BERNSTEIN and J. J. TAHANEY

We are close enough to the end of 1952 to begin to wonder about what 1953 and the years beyond hold for the human race, of which working people are such a big part. We may try to pull back the curtain to look out upon a broad highway to progress, but there are many tangles which prevent the drawing back of the curtain.

There are signs of the times on the highway as we pass along towards the close of 1952; and many of them are indistinct in the mire and mud of cold and hot wars. The whole air, even before Korea, has been "ify." Each and every conclusion which cannot be reached depends on the qualifying "if." We must predicate each prophecy on "if" this or that will happen.

WAR TO EXPAND?

All of us can agree with the thought that the domestic policy in America hangs on developments in international affairs. "If" the war should expand, we should have to take more producers from the ranks of the workers of hand and brain and put them in the armed forces. If the war should become global, we should have to take almost all the able bodied men from domestic production, and in some cases from military production, and replace them with women, the handicapped and the over-aged; and child labor would have to be employed as the authorities would wink at child labor law violations. "If," on the other hand, peace should come to the earth, and all the nations would arm only for defense, the employment trend would be reversed. Men would be released from the armed forces to seek work in domestic production. Would industry be able to give every one a job; or would the sacred right to work become an idle jest?

OVER-PRODUCTION

As we pause to take stock, we find inventories in many lines overbuilt. There are more goods, in many lines, in the marts of trade than there are customers. "If" the returning men from the military forces cannot get jobs; then those workers now employed in manufacturing and handling military supplies will not have jobs, and will not be able to get work producing domestic goods where inventories are overbuilt.

In pausing to take stock, we may look further backward than 1952, we may look back to the depressions under Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, Harding, and Hoover and we shall find that they were all caused by one cause. Some people refer to it as over-production; others call it under-consumption. Perhaps both are guilty. Perhaps, both under-consumption, and over-production, combined together bring on a depression.

Thus, "if," peace should quickly and permanently come, we shall have under-consumption, because those without jobs cannot buy articles of commerce, and because the nation was able to build up inventories of domestic supplies alongside the production of military supplies, we shall have over-production to the extent that if the returning war heroes and the discharged workers of military producers, were put to work to produce domestic supplies, our over-production would grow by leaps and bounds.

PLAIN DEPRESSION

The facts are so plain they can be seen even by the naked eye of those who lack the trained mind of the college graduate. Facts cannot be denied. The signs of the times make a record to prove that complete peace will bring the disaster of unemployment which is usually referred to as a depression.

We have looked at one side of the shield. What can we read on the other side? Perchance, does it reveal that war must guarantee employment if peace will bring unemployment? There is a school of

opinion which believes that to be true, but even that opinion does not claim that war will guarantee prosperity.

We should be honest with ourselves. The boom of a war economy is not prosperity. It is like the house built upon sand. At its topmost, it is as uncertain as any economy can be. It is bad because the day must come when the war will end. Then will come peace with its problems.

Our new Commander-in-Chief has warned us not to expect miracles. It is wise not to count too much on an expanding economy. An expanding economy must have the feature of permanency. It means more and more people in the market buying more and more products.

A VICIOUS CYCLE

It means everyone at work earning dollars and spending them. Just as soon as purchases of autos, electrical appliances, and other luxuries show a big decline, that decline will be followed by a decline in the purchase of necessities; because a decline in the purchase of luxuries will cause unemployment in the field of luxuries, which means fewer pay envelopes; which means fewer dollars to buy necessities, which will mean less sales of necessities, which will bring disemployment in that field also, and the vicious cycle will continue to sweep downward until we are in a depression.

Competent observers are already being quoted to the effect that this vicious cycle will arrive in 1953 and continue for some time. Of course

all these calculations are based on the supposition that the war condition will not spread. There is more certainty to the conclusions should Eisenhower be successful in establishing peace.

FREEZE WAGES, NOT PROFITS

If peace be not established, and the war spreads, workers will find they will not have much freedom. They will not be allowed to leave one job to accept another. As in the past war, pirating will be prevented.

The workers will find that wages will be frozen, and that necessities of life will be sold in the black and gray markets. As per usual the line will be held on benefits for workers, but unconscionable profits will be made by crooks and grafters in the black market.

The government will always make a pretense that it can control prices of goods, but it will make no success in the field; it will be able to make the workers goose step in much the same way they draft men into the armed forces. Compulsion will be used. And compulsion will be promised to destroy the black market, and those who make that promise will not keep it. The future is none too bright for those who work for a living.

It begins to look as though the honeymoon is almost ended.

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The Big, Congenial Baker— SCHNITZLER IS AN ORGANIZER. HARD WORKER

(AFL Release)

Chicago, Ill.—William F. Schnitzler, the new secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, is a big, congenial baker with a flair for fancy cakes and an impressive reputation as an organizer.

During the 3 years he was business agent of Bakery Workers' Local 84, in Newark, N. J., from 1934 to 1937, the membership of the local ran up from 219 to more than 3,000.

He came to Chicago in 1943 as international secretary-treasurer of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers, when Herman Winter was elected president. In 1950 he became president on Winter's retirement.

MEMBERSHIP ROSE

During those 10 years, the membership of the Bakers' international union was doubled—from 90,000 to 185,000.

"I was drafted for the job" (of AFL secretary-treasurer), Schnitzler said. "When I was approached about it, I didn't want it. I like working with the bakers, and I'll be sorry to give up that work."

"But I can't disregard a summons by the American Federation of Labor. They told me it was a unanimous choice by the Executive Council. I'll give it the best I have."

"Big Bill" was the son of an AFL metal polisher. When he was 10, his father died. Bill went to work in Newark factories and shipyards as soon as he finished grammar school. Later, he served his baker's apprenticeship in the Peerless Baking Co. plant in Newark, and joined Local 84 in 1924.

HARD WORKER

Ten years later, his active organizing career started. He rose from local business agent to international representative and general representative on his way up to the presidency of the Bakers.

Schnitzler is 48, a believer in hard work and careful public relations rather than strikes as organizing techniques. In recent years, no Hollywood wedding has been considered complete by the American press without photos of the starlet bride cutting an AFL-made cake.

Under the leadership of the late A. A. Myrup, Winter, Schnitzler, and others, the AFL Bakers have come "out of the basement" into modern confection factories with the most sanitary working conditions, and strikes have been few.

Schnitzler lives on Chicago's north side with his wife, Edith, and two children—William, 16, a high school junior, and Dolores, 13, who is in the eighth grade in a Chicago grammar school.

Spraying a wool rug with a five per cent DDT solution will protect it a year or more from moths and carpet beetles.

PROGRESS MADE ON MIGRATORY LABOR POLICIES

Agricultural management as well as labor agreed on policies to govern migratory workers in a program announced by Henry Fowler, director of defense mobilization.

The program was developed by the Labor-Management Policy Committee, on which agricultural management is represented. It is designed to help make sufficient labor available to farmers.

STEP FORWARD

This first common agreement between management and labor on this subject of migratory labor does not cover many long-range problems, such as the minimum wage, but it is considered a long step forward.

The recommendations in the program include cooperation to improve employer-worker relations on the farm, a development which would prepare the way for the National Agricultural Workers' Union.

Also recommended were continued action to improve employment conditions and to provide the greatest possible continuity of employment and income for the workers, and continued improvement in educational, housing, transportation, reaction, and health facilities for migratory workers.

AGREEMENT REACHED

Agreement was reached on bringing in "only the minimum number of supplementary foreign workers" when "labor is not available from local and other domestic sources." The number, it was said, should be such as "will not adversely affect wages and working conditions of domestic agricultural workers."

In determining the need for foreign workers, the Department of Labor was charged with making certain that they are not paid below the prevailing wage rate.

Red Anti-Semitism Charged by ICFTU

(State Fed. Release)

A blunt condemnation of the anti-Semitic character of the recent Communist trials in Czechoslovakia was issued last week by the Executive Board of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions meeting in New York City.

The world labor body charged that "the fantastic and fraudulent accusations of a 'Jewish plot,' in typical Hitler fashion, are only the logical expression of the policy of anti-Semitism and genocide pursued so ruthlessly by the powers behind the Iron Curtain."

Presented by AFL President George Meany at the first ICFTU session ever held in the western hemisphere, the indictment of the Prague trials was adopted by unanimous vote by the 19-member executive board representing more than 70 nations.

The week-long sessions were held in New York under the chairmanship of Sir Vincent Tewson, ICFTU president and general secretary of the British Trades Union Congress.

Listen to Frank Edwards.

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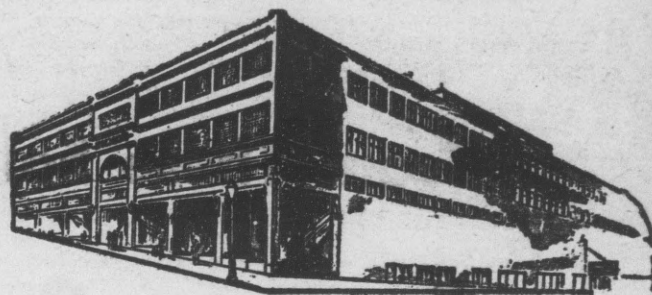
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